

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method for concurrently accepting parameters in at least two contexts, the method comprising:
 - accepting a keystroke sequence comprising at least one keystroke, each keystroke having a first value, and at least a subset of the keystrokes having a second value;
 - determining whether the keystroke sequence produces a valid result in a first context;
 - responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in the first context, outputting first feedback, the first feedback indicating keystroke input according to the first context;
 - responsive to the keystroke sequence not producing a valid result in the first context:
 - determining whether the keystroke sequence produces a valid result in a second context; and
 - responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in the second context, outputting second feedback, the second feedback indicating keystroke input according to the second context.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2 responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in the first
 3 context, performing a first operation corresponding to the first
 4 context, using the first value for each keystroke.

1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 2 responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in the sec-
 3 ond context, performing a second operation corresponding to
 4 the second context, using the second value for each keystroke.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein:
 2 the first feedback indicates the first value for each keystroke; and
 3 the second feedback indicates the second value for each keystroke.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first feedback comprises visual
 2 feedback and the second feedback comprises visual feedback.

1 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 2 responsive to the keystroke sequence not producing a valid result in the
 3 first context and in the second context, outputting an invalidity
 4 indicator.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein outputting an invalidity indicator com-
 2 prises outputting an auditory invalidity indicator.

1 8. The method of claim 6, wherein outputting an invalidity indicator com-
2 prises outputting a visual invalidity indicator.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the contexts comprises
2 accepting input for a directory filtering operation on a plurality of directory re-
3 cords.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the first context comprises accepting
2 input for a directory filtering operation on a plurality of directory records.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the directory filtering operation is it-
2 erative.

1 12. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
2 responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in the first
3 context, performing the directory filtering operation using the
4 first value for each of the accepted keystrokes.

1 13. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
2 responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in the first
3 context, performing the directory filtering operation using the
4 accepted keystrokes;